

I support media diversity

Re Docket No. 02-277, The Biennial Review of the FCC's broadcast media ownership rules.

I am a professor of anthropology in Oakland, California. Very few of my students read the print media. Today's students get their information about the world and the nation and their communities through television and radio. I strongly urge that the FCC retain all of the current media ownership rules now in question. These rules serve the public interest by limiting the market power of already huge companies in the broadcast industry.

I do not believe that the studies commissioned by the FCC accurately demonstrate the negative affects media deregulation and consolidation have had on media diversity. While there may be indeed be more sources of media than ever before, the spectrum of views presented have become more limited.

You can best serve the public interest by preserving the current media ownership rules in your proceeding tomorrow.

Please allow for a long, informed public discussion of these issues. The FCC must not be seen to only serve large corporate media interests in this issue, but also those with fewer funds and thus lesser clout, but perspectives of a diverse population

Please consider that you serve the public and through the public you serve democracy.

Thank you,

Leslie Fleming